CLAIMS

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A basketball backboard and hoop apparatus, comprising:

a basketball backboard and hoop assembly;

a support arm for supporting the basketball backboard and hoop assembly; and

a support element, wherein the support element provides support for the support arm;

wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is longitudinally moved along a horizontal plane or along any angle within 45 degrees of or about a horizontal plane from a first position inside a structure to a second position outside the structure, and further wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is moved to an in-use position.

2. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly further comprises a backboard, and further wherein the apparatus further comprises:

a backboard support member, wherein the backboard support member deploys the backboard into an upright position.

3. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly further comprises a backboard, and further wherein the apparatus further comprises:

a backboard support member, wherein the backboard support member unfolds the backboard to an in-use position or folds the backboard prior to storage.

4. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly comprises a hoop capable of being rotated to an in-use position, wherein the hoop is at least one of rotated in a vertical direction to an in-use position subsequent to the basketball backboard and hoop assembly being moved to at least one of the second position and the in-use position and rotated in a horizontal direction to an in-use position subsequent to the basketball backboard and hoop assembly being moved to at least one of the second position and the in-use position.

5. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically deploying the

basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position or for automatically returning the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the non-use position.

6. The apparatus of Claim 5, further comprising:

a computer for controlling the electric motor; and

a shock sensor attached to at least one of the apparatus, the structure, the support arm, the support element, the basketball backboard and hoop assembly, a backboard support member, and the basketball backboard, wherein the shock sensor generates a signal indicative of a use of the apparatus,

wherein the computer processes information generated by the shock sensor, and further wherein the computer detects a period of non-use of the apparatus and automatically returns the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the non-use position.

7. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the support arm is moved in an opposite direction, and further wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is longitudinally moved along a horizontal plane or along any angle within 45 degrees of or about a horizontal plane from the second position to a stored position inside the structure.

8. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is deployed for use outside the structure.

9. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

at least one mounting element for mounting the support element to the structure.

10. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly is moved through a dedicated aperture.

11. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly comprises a foldable backboard.

12. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

an electric motor for at least one of automatically deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position or for automatically storing the basketball backboard and hoop assembly.

13. The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a mechanical device for deploying the backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position and or for storing the backboard and hoop assembly.

14. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the apparatus, the basketball backboard and hoop assembly, the support arm, and the support element, is manufactured from at least one of metal, steel, wood, plastic, plastic composite material, metal alloy material, metal alloy composite material, and fiberglass.

15. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the basketball backboard and hoop assembly further comprises:

a backboard, wherein the backboard is an unfoldable backboard.

16. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position.

17. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

an electric motor for automatically returning the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to a non-use position.

18. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the in-use position is outside the structure and a non-use position is inside the structure.

19. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

a mechanical device for at least one of deploying the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position and returning the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to a non-use position.

20. The apparatus of Claim 1, further comprising:

at least one of an automatic timer and a sensor for sensing darkness, daylight, noise, motion in the vicinity of the structure in which the apparatus is mounted or to which the apparatus is mounted, rainfall, snowfall, and an environmental condition,

wherein the at least one of an automatic timer and a sensor for sensing darkness, daylight, noise, infrared heat from

a player, an impact or impact motion upon the basketball backboard apparatus, a light beam break from a basketball, motion in the vicinity of the structure in which the apparatus is mounted or to which the apparatus is mounted, rainfall, snowfall, and an environmental condition, activates at least one of an electrical motor and a mechanical device to at least one of deploy the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to the in-use position and retract the basketball backboard and hoop assembly to a non-use position or to the position inside the structure.